

REMARKS

The present amendment is in response to the Office action dated 29 July 2008, where the Examiner has rejected claims 40-42, 44-48, and 58 and allowed claims 49-57. Claim 43 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but was indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. In the present amendment, claim 40 has been amended and claims 43 and 58 have been cancelled without prejudice. Accordingly, claims 40-42, 44-57 are pending in the present application with claims 40 and 49 being the independent claims. A notice of allowance including all pending claims 40-42, 44-57 in view of the amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

A. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance of claims 49-57 and the indication of allowable subject matter in dependent claim 43 that depends from independent claim 40. Claims 49-57 have not been amended and Applicant requests that a notice of allowance be issued that includes claims 49 -57.

Claim 40 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable dependent claim 43. Applicant therefore believes that claim 40 and its respective dependent claims are all presently in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that a notice of allowance be issued that includes claims 40-42 and 44-48.

CONCLUSION

For all the foregoing reasons, allowance of pending claims 40-42, 44-57 is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation may be useful in advancing prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number listed below. If necessary, applicant requests to extend the period for filing this reply pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) and authorizes the Director to charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s) or credit any overpayment(s) to Procopio Deposit Account No. 50-2075.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 29 December 2008

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